Return and the requirement for repayment of huge market borrowings by the Konkan Railway Corporation, the Central Government have sanctioned inflation in distance for charge which is @40% for Passenger and Other Coaching traffic and 50% for Goods Traffic on Konkan Railway. The imposition of inflation in distance is a normal practice on the Indian Railways for realisation of an economic Rate of Return on its Projects. Periodic Financial review of inflation in distance is undertaken for assessing the viability of the project and based on such study, the inflation in distance for charge is either reduced or withdrawn."

Heavy Rush in Karnataka Express

335 SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that heavy rush always remain in Karnataka Express running between Bangalore and New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to run the Rajdhani Express running between Nizamuddin and Bangalore as a bi-weekly train; and

(c) is so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) There are periods of heavy rush in Karnataka Express between Bangalore and New Delhi.

(b) and (c) It is proposed to increase the frequency of Nizamuddin-Bangalore Rajdhani from weekly to bi-weekly on availability of additional Rajdhani rake.

Railway Enquiry System

336. DR. M. JAGANNATH :
SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a revised railway enquiry system is being introduced at Visakhapatnam railway station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said system is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). An interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) for giving computer generated response regarding running of passenger carrying trains has already been installed at Visakhapatnam. This system provides a direct telephonic interface of the person making enquiry with the computerised system. Such a person is guided and prompted to provide relevant details of the enquiry to the system to enable it to provide the requisite reply. In addition inquiries regarding running of passenger carrying trains are answered by the enquiry clerks on telephones or in person.

There in no proposal to make any change in the existing arrangements.

Earnings from Advertisemets/Serials to Doordarshan

337 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of doordarshan's earnings/ commercial revenue from advertisements and sponsorships during each of the last three years respectively;

(b) the programmes/serials helped earn the highest revenue during the said period;

(c) whether the Government propose to rise further in its earnings; and

(d) if so, the details of sources/programmes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M IBRAHIM) : (a) The gross revenue earned by Doordarshan during the past three years is as under :

Year	Gross Revenue (in Rs. crores)
1993-94	372.98
1994-95	398.02
1995-96	430.13

(b) The following are the highest revenue earning programmes/serials during the said period :

Hindi Feature Films, Chitrahaar, Rangoli, Chandrakanta, Tehkikat, Alif Laila, BPL Ek Se Badkar Ek, Junoon, Superhit Mucabala, Shri Krishna, and Kanoon.

(c) and (d) it is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to maximise its commercial revenues without compromising with its social and national objectives and the quality of its programmes.

Modernisation of RSP and BSP

338 SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
PROF. RITA VERMA :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the modernisation work of Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) and Bokaro Steel Plant (BSP) is being done as per the target fixed therefor;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the progress of work done so far, plant-wise;